

'Go' getters

Remembrances and wisdom from some "Let's Go" travel researchers over the years.



Lisa Nosal, 26
Venice and Padua,
Italy, 1999



Robert Morrison, 33
Israel, West Bank,
Sinai Peninsula, 1988;
Morocco, 1989



Ted Osius, 41
Greece, Israel, 1982;
Egypt, Tunisia, Italy,
Morocco, 1984



Saul Pannell, 51
London, Paris, Rome,
Florence, and Venice,
1972



Tom Stemberg, 54
Austria, 1968;
associate editor, 1969

Occupation	Copywriter for Explorica, an educational travel company.	Assistant professor of religion, Whitman College, Walla Walla, Wash.	Foreign Service officer	Investment manager	Chairman, Staples, Inc.
Biggest trip before "Let's Go" assignment	London, Paris, and Rome, summer 1994.	"The year before, I'd gone to Israel to work on a kibbutz, and then I traveled in Egypt."	Eight months in Middle East and Eastern Europe.	"A motorcycle trip to Muskegon, Mich."	"I lived in Austria from [age 13] until college, and then came to Harvard sight unseen."
Age for first "Let's Go" trip	23	18	21	21	19
Best moment in the course of your research	"Walking into the Scrovegni Chapel in Padua. It's lined with 14th-century frescoes by Giotto."	"Visiting the West Bank. It was right during the first Palestinian intifada. It was tense, and I was relieved to be done, but I also knew I was there at a time when few other Americans were."	"Traveling with my sister in Sicily."	"After I did the job, I met up with a friend of mine, we rented a car, and we went to Morocco, then back to Lisbon. Then we flew to Copenhagen, and took a train to Amsterdam."	"I was doing a special article on the great nightclubs of Europe, and a club owner wanted to introduce me to Gina Lollobrigida, who was coming that night."
Worst moment in the course of your research	"I needed to research a hostel run by nuns, and my skirt was entirely too short to be there. I had an argument with the nun who ran the place."	"In Morocco, when I realized I was not going to be getting my luggage, ever."	"Traveling with my sister in Tunisia."	"In Paris, some places [I was checking were] in the red light district. I spoke French, but I didn't know the vernacular well enough, and I couldn't communicate very well with the women in the street."	"In my second year, I was checking on other people's listings, and discovered that some of the hotels didn't even exist anymore."
Do you use "Let's Go" now?	No.	"I don't always, because it's not always written for those of us with jobs."	No.	"No. I'm too old."	"I'm a little old for 'Let's Go' now, but I do use it occasionally."
What do you use?	Rough Guides, or Time Out.	Rough Guide.	"In Asia, I use the Rough Guide and Lonely Planet guides."	"I use my travel agent. Suffice it to say, ... I'm more likely to stay at the Four Seasons than at a youth hostel!"	Michelin.
A travel tip	"Be open to the inhabitants. Don't assume they're out to take advantage of you."	"Take far less than you think you will need. Most countries have toiletries and underwear, for example."	"Don't pack more than you can carry easily."	"When choosing a trip that has multiple legs, don't go with the ones that have the shortest layovers."	"Brussels is Europe's lesser-known gem. ... Beautiful churches, parks, etc., yet known more for its commercial importance."

GLOBE STAFF GRAPHIC/MICHAEL PRAGER